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Reply to the Office Action of 12/01/2005

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

Please amend Claims 1, 5, 6, 9, and 28 as follows.

**1 (currently amended).** A method of instant messaging comprising:

accepting a correction to a message previously sent to a recipient device message;

determining whether a message correction of the previously sent message requires sending one of a complete corrected message and a message correction specification; and

based on the determination of message correction of the previously sent message, sending to an instant message manager on a messaging server one of a complete corrected message and a message correction specification.

**2 (original).** The method of claim 1, wherein the determining step comprises determining whether at least one factor of the following corresponds to a system:

allowing message correction by message correction specification;

implementing message processing services at a messaging server; and

transmitting binary formats.

**3 (original).** The method of claim 1, wherein the message correction specification comprises at least one text replacement specification.

**4 (original).** The method of claim 3, wherein the text replacement specification comprises:

a start character index;

an end character index; and

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insertion text.

**5 (currently amended).** A method performed by an instant message manager on a messaging server, the method comprising:

receiving a message correction specification and a message identifier (ID) from an originating client system; and

sending the message correction specification and the message ID to a recipient client system if a message with a corresponding message ID has previously been sent to the recipient client system.

**6 (currently amended).** A method performed by an instant message manager on a messaging server, the method comprising:

receiving a message correction specification and a message identifier (ID) from an originating client system;

correcting a message with a corresponding message ID if a message with a corresponding message ID has not previously been sent to a recipient client system; and

sending the corrected message and the message ID to a recipient client system.

**7 (original).** The method of claim 6, wherein the message correction specification comprises at least one text replacement specification.

**8 (original).** The method of claim 7, wherein the text replacement specification comprises:

a start character index;

an end character index; and

insertion text.

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**9 (currently amended).** A method performed by an instant message manager on a messaging server, the method comprising:

- maintaining an ephemeral storage log of an instant messaging conversation;

- receiving a message correction specification and a message identifier (ID) from an originating client system;

- determining if a message processing service is required;

- correcting a message with a corresponding message ID in the ephemeral storage log if a message processing service is required; and

- sending the corrected message and the message ID to a recipient client system.

**10 (original).** The method of claim 9, wherein the determining step comprises determining whether at least one factor of the following corresponds to a system:

- language translation;

- correction of binary format information in a message;

- correction of image information in a message;

- system processing efficiency; and

- network communication efficiency.

**11 (original).** A method comprising:

- receiving a message correction specification and a message identifier (ID) from a messaging server;

- retrieving a message with a corresponding message ID from a conversation log;

- correcting the message;

- updating the conversation log; and

- activating an alert to notify a user of an update.

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**12 (original).** The method of claim 11, wherein the alert comprises at least one of: displaying highlighted corrected text in a conversation log and an auditory alert.

**13 (original).** The method of claim 11, wherein the message correction specification comprises at least one text replacement specification.

**14 (original).** The method of claim 13, wherein the text replacement specification comprises:

- a start character index;
- an end character index; and
- insertion text.

**15 (original).** An apparatus comprising:

- an instant messaging client, for sending and receiving messages and message correction specifications; and

- an error corrector, communicatively coupled to the instant messaging client, for accepting a correction to a previously sent message, determining whether a message correction of the previously sent message requires sending one of a complete corrected message and a message correction specification, and based on the determination of message correction of the previously sent message, sending to a messaging server one of a complete corrected message and a message correction specification.

**16 (original).** The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the message correction specification comprises at least one text replacement specification.

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**17 (original).** The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the text replacement specification

comprises:

- a start character index;
- an end character index; and
- insertion text.

**18 (original).** The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the error corrector is further for:

- receiving a message correction specification and a message identifier (ID) from a messaging server;
- retrieving a message with a corresponding message ID from a conversation log;
- correcting the message;
- updating the conversation log; and
- activating an alert to notify a user of an update.

**19 (original).** The apparatus of claim 18, wherein the message correction specification comprises at least one text replacement specification.

**20 (original).** The apparatus of claim 19, wherein the text replacement specification

comprises:

- a start character index;
- an end character index; and
- insertion text.

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**21 (original).**An apparatus comprising:

an instant message manager for routing messages and message correction specifications to a recipient system; and

an error corrector, communicatively coupled to the instant message manager, for receiving a message correction specification and a message identifier (ID) from an originating client system, correcting a message with a corresponding message ID if a message with a corresponding message ID has not previously been sent to a recipient client system, and sending the corrected message and the message ID to a recipient client system.

**22 (original).**The apparatus of claim 21, wherein the message correction specification comprises at least one text replacement specification.

**23 (original).**The apparatus of claim 22, wherein the text replacement specification comprises:

a start character index;  
an end character index; and  
insertion text.

**24 (original).**The apparatus of claim 21, further comprising

an ephemeral storage system for temporarily maintaining a log of an instant message conversation.

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**25 (original).** A system comprising:

at least one originating client system, for accepting a correction to a previously sent message, determining whether a message correction of the previously sent message requires sending one of a complete corrected message and a message correction specification, and based on the determination of message correction of the previously sent message, sending to a messaging server one of a complete corrected message and a message correction specification;

a messaging server, communicatively coupled to the at least one originating client system, for receiving a message correction specification and a message identifier (ID) from the at least one originating client system, correcting a message with a corresponding message ID if a message with a corresponding message ID has not previously been sent to a recipient client system, and sending the corrected message and the message ID to the recipient client system; and

at least one recipient client system, communicatively coupled to the messaging server, for receiving a message correction specification and a message identifier (ID) from the messaging server, retrieving a message with a corresponding message ID from a conversation log, correcting the message, updating the conversation log, and activating an alert to notify a user of an update.

**26 (original).** The system of claim 25, wherein the message correction specification comprises at least one text replacement specification.

**27 (original).** The system of claim 26, wherein the text replacement specification comprises:

a start character index;  
an end character index; and  
insertion text.

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**28 (currently amended).** A computer readable medium comprising computer instructions for:

- accepting a correction to a message previously sent to a recipient device message;

- determining whether a message correction of the previously sent message requires sending one of a complete corrected message and a message correction specification; and

- based on the determination of message correction of the previously sent message, sending to an instant message manager on a messaging server one of a complete corrected message and a message correction specification.

**29 (original).** The computer readable medium of claim 28, wherein the determining comprises determining whether at least one factor of the following corresponds to a system:

- allowing message correction by message correction specification;
- implementing message processing services at a messaging server; and
- transmitting binary formats.

**30 (original).** The computer readable medium of claim 29, wherein the message correction specification comprises at least one text replacement specification.

**31 (original).** The computer readable medium of claim 30, wherein the text replacement specification comprises:

- a start character index;
- an end character index; and
- insertion text.



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**32 (previously presented).** A computer readable medium comprising computer instructions for:

- receiving a message correction specification and a message identifier (ID) from an originating client system; and

- sending the message correction specification and the message ID to a recipient client system if a message with a corresponding message ID has previously been sent to the recipient client system.

**33 (original).** A computer readable medium comprising computer instructions for:

- receiving a message correction specification and a message identifier (ID) from an originating client system;

- correcting a message with a corresponding message ID if a message with a corresponding message ID has not previously been sent to a recipient client system; and

- sending the corrected message and the message ID to a recipient client system.

**34 (original).** The computer readable medium of claim 33, wherein the message correction specification comprises at least one text replacement specification.

**35 (original).** The computer readable medium of claim 34, wherein the text replacement specification comprises:

- a start character index;
- an end character index; and
- insertion text.

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**36 (original).** A computer readable medium comprising computer instructions for:  
maintaining an ephemeral storage log of an instant messaging conversation;  
receiving a message correction specification and a message identifier (ID) from an originating client system;  
determining if a message processing service is required;  
correcting a message with a corresponding message ID in the ephemeral storage log if a message processing service is required; and  
sending the corrected message and the message ID to a recipient client system.

**37 (original).** The computer readable medium of claim 36, wherein the determining step comprises determining whether at least one factor of the following corresponds to a system:

- language translation;
- correction of binary format information in a message;
- correction of image information in a message;
- system processing efficiency; and
- network communication efficiency.

**38 (original).** A computer readable medium comprising computer instructions for:  
receiving a message correction specification and a message identifier (ID) from a messaging server;  
retrieving a message with a corresponding message ID from a conversation log;  
correcting the message;  
updating the conversation log; and  
activating an alert to notify a user of an update.

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**39 (original).** The computer readable medium of claim 38, wherein the alert comprises at least one of: displaying highlighted corrected text in a conversation log and an auditory alert.